

Activity: Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America
Activity Summary

Program Component	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Estimate	FY 2006			Change From 2005 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America	0	0	0	+12,500	12,500	+12,500
Total Requirements	0	0	0	+12,500	12,500	+12,500
<i>Total FTE Requirements</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 470 National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Mission Overview

The Preserve America program supports the National Park Service goal to provide educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people through partnerships with other federal, state, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations. This goal contributes to the Departmental goal to protect the Nation's natural, cultural, and heritage resources.

FY 2006 Base Program Overview

This is a new program proposed for FY 2006.

FY 2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

No funding was provided for this activity in FY 2004.

FY 2005 Planned Program Performance

No funding was provided for this activity in FY 2005.

Justification of FY 2006 Budget Request for Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America

Request Component	Amount	FTE
FY 2005 Budget Estimate	0	0
Programmatic Changes		
• Establish Preserve America Grants Program	+12,500	0
TOTAL, Program Changes	+12,500	0
Uncontrollable Changes	No Change	0
FY 2006 Budget Request	12,500	0
Net Change	+12,500	0

The FY 2006 budget request to establish the Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America is \$12.5 million.

Establish Preserve America Grants Program: +\$12.500 million

The Administration is proposing \$12.5 million for Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America to initiate this program in FY 2006. The funding would provide assistance to communities looking for ways to preserve their local heritage in a self-sustaining manner, including planning and feasibility studies, heritage education curricula, and heritage tourism business cases. American history comes alive in historic

buildings, cultural sites, and communities that celebrate their historic settings. Thousands of historic and cultural sites are the pride of local communities everywhere. Many of these communities can use historic sites to promote heritage tourism and economic development.

The Preserve America program would provide grants to local communities to develop strategies for sustainable use of historic and cultural heritage assets (e.g., buildings, landscapes, and natural features) and to foster economic and educational opportunities related to heritage tourism. Heritage assets, including historic resources and associated landscapes and natural features, are viable elements for local economic development. More than half of the States have some form of heritage tourism programs that result in job creation and increasing property values and tax revenue.

The program would not fund “bricks and mortar” restoration projects, which are covered under Save America’s Treasures grants. Instead, it complements the Save America’s Treasures grants program by offering support to local communities in the form of competitive 50:50 matching grants as “seed money” to facilitate the development of sustainable resource management strategies and sound business practices for the continued preservation of heritage assets. Such activities include planning and feasibility studies, heritage education curricula, and heritage tourism business cases. American history comes alive in historic buildings, cultural sites, and communities that celebrate their historic settings. Thousands of historic and cultural sites are the pride of local communities everywhere. Many of these communities can use historic sites to promote heritage tourism and economic development. The Preserve America initiative requests \$12.5 million in 2006 for planning and associated assistance to communities looking for ways to preserve their local heritage in a self-sustaining manner. For example, Virginia City, Montana, attracts visitors with one of the best-preserved gold mining towns in the West; Pioneer Square in Seattle retains much of its historic character, including the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, and attracts visitors accordingly. Most of the Boston National Historical Park sites are connected by the Freedom Trail. Recognized as a National Recreation Trail, the three mile trail is a walking tour of 16 sites and structures in downtown Boston and Charlestown of great significance to our nation’s creation. As Americans travel, they seek to reconnect with our Nation’s rich history and diverse culture. The Preserve America initiative would help communities meet this growing demand for heritage tourism.

Eligibility is limited to State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), designated Preserve America Communities, or Certified Local Governments (CLGs) that have applied for Preserve America Community designation. The National Park Service would administer Preserve America grants in partnership with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Performance Summary Table: Grants-in-Aid to Preserve America

See table at end of Historic Preservation Fund section.